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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 13  
By Miller L

A RESOLUTION to honor the 2000 American Football Conference  
Central Division Champion Tennessee Titans.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those successful sports franchises that, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to the state of Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of this state; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Titans achieved unparalleled success during the season of 2000 by winning more games than any other team in the league; they have established themselves as a model franchise in the National Football League that is respected by all; and

WHEREAS, Coach Jeff Fisher and his team won the third Central Division Championship of the American Football Conference in franchise history; they are the first group to accomplish this feat as Tennessee Titans; and

WHEREAS, the Titans were able to succeed despite facing the most hazardous of conditions; as defending AFC Champions, the team was targeted by all as a key opponent; Tennessee's team always faced the best effort that the opposition could muster; and

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WHEREAS, this resilient team exhibited great fortitude in repeatedly attaining victory, despite having to overcome injuries that would have doomed a lesser squadron of men; and

WHEREAS, the Titans combined powerful offensive weapons with a defense that was the finest in the league with respect to total yardage allowed and passing yardage allowed; and

WHEREAS, a remarkably well-balanced team, the Tennessee Titans' individually talented members banded together to work toward common goals; in doing so, many of these players achieved striking personal success; and

WHEREAS, nine Tennessee Titans were named members of the AFC Pro Bowl roster, the greatest representation of any team; the prestigious group included Blaine Bishop, Eddie George, Brad Hopkins, Jevon Kearse, Steve McNair, Derrick Mason, Bruce Matthews, Samari Rolle, and Frank Wycheck; and

WHEREAS, the talent and teamwork of this group of players were such that several individuals saw their names immortalized in the NFL record book; and

WHEREAS, Bruce Matthews finished the season with 276 career starts and 280 games played, both records for an NFL offensive lineman; his total 280 games played is fifth most of any player in league history and two more than his brother, Clay; and

WHEREAS, Derrick Mason gained more all-purpose yards in 2000 than any player in a single NFL season; he caught passes, ran, and returned punts and kickoffs for an amazing total of 2,668 yards; and

WHEREAS, Jevon Kearse continued to intimidate his opponents, while becoming just the fourth player to amass at least ten sacks in each of his first two seasons; and

WHEREAS, Eddie George gained 1507 yards rushing, third in the league, on 404 carries in 2000, only six short of an NFL record; he was able to excel because of his physical stamina and mental determination, which are characteristic of a Titan, as well as the tremendous efforts of the Titan's offensive linemen to clear broad pathways for him; and

WHEREAS, the many impressive accomplishments of this team have endeared them to the people of Tennessee; they inspire capacity crowds of fans who in return provide a tremendous advantage for the team in their home stadium; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Titans utilized this remarkable home-field advantage to establish a league record by winning twelve consecutive regular season games to open Adelphia Coliseum; and

WHEREAS, the entire nation took notice of the Titans as they made the most appearances on Monday Night Football of any NFL team in 2000 and won each game convincingly; the Titans thus provided an opportunity for this state and its Capital City to display its beauty and personality; and

WHEREAS, since owner Bud Adams brought NFL football to our state, the Tennessee Titans and the state of Tennessee and its citizens have cultivated a relationship that has been mutually beneficent to the highest degree; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby congratulate the 2000 AFC Central Division Champion Tennessee Titans, including their owner, coaches, staff, players, and all others associated with this superb organization, and extend to them our heartiest wishes for future success both on and off the gridiron.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.